



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session*

**FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1361**

G&F; heritage fund; expenditures

Purpose

Modifies requirements for usage and reporting of the Game and Fish Commission Heritage Fund (Fund).

Background

The Fund is established pursuant to A.R.S. § 17-297, consisting of monies from the State Lottery Fund (SLF). Ten million dollars of the SLF must be deposited into the Fund annually (A.R.S. § 5-572). The Game and Fish Commission (Commission) annually allocates from total monies in the Fund: 1) 5 percent for public access, maintenance and operation expenses; 2) 60 percent for the identification, inventory, acquisition, protection and management, maintenance and operations of property with sensitive habitat; 3) 15 percent for habitat evaluation or protection; 4) 15 percent for urban wildlife and urban wildlife habitat programs; and 5) 5 percent for environmental education (A.R.S. § 17-298).

Statute requires the Commission to submit an annual report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chairmen of Senate and House of Representatives Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture or other related committees. The annual report must include: 1) the amount of monies spent from the Fund on projects, activities and employee services; 2) a summary of the projects, activities and expenditures; 3) number and location of properties acquired; 4) amount of property tax revenue paid; 5) number of full-time employees employed; and 6) information on grants awarded, including information on recipients, purposes and amounts (A.R.S. § 17-298).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Allows the Commission to spend, for purposes of operation and maintenance of acquired property, not more than 20 percent of Fund monies allocated for the identification, inventory, acquisition, protection and management, maintenance and operations of property with sensitive habitat.
2. Reduces the amount required for acquisition of property with endangered, threatened and candidate species from at least 40 percent to at least 20 percent of Fund monies allocated for the identification, inventory, acquisition, protection and management, maintenance and operations of property with sensitive habitat.

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3. Requires the Commission's annual report be submitted to the Secretary of State.
4. Makes technical and conforming changes.
5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research

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